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ROLCO AQUASIZE GILDING ADHESIVE

A clear water-based gilding adhesive (size) formulated for all interior leaf and vertical exterior work where extended tack time is required.

ROLCO'S AQUASIZE does not contain any oils and, therefore, is an excellent gilding adhesive that will not stain papers or other absorbent materials that would normally stain with oil type sizes. AQUASIZE may be utilized as an adhesive for other decorative mediums such as **glass beads**, **glitters** and **pearlescent micas**. AQUASIZE may also be used where a two-part conversion protective coating is applied in order to prevent the "lifting" that may occur when an oil or solvent-based size is employed. Any vertical surface that does not permit water accumulation is a viable end use. In addition, the AQUASIZE is emission safe with no fire hazard and minimal toxicity.

AQUASIZE affords excellent flexibility and an extended tack time for surface gilding applications. It develops tack in 15 to 20 minutes under normal conditions. The tack will generally hold between 36 and 48 hours. It should be noted that tack times are subjective to the user's preferences and are approximate depending upon ambient temperature and humidity.

DIRECTIONS FOR USE:

Surface preparation is critical for the integrity of the gilding process. All surfaces must be clean, dry and free from contaminants such as oil, waxes, dust and fingerprints.

The surfaces must be cleaned thoroughly. Glass should be cleaned with a lint-free cloth wetted with alcohol. Wipe the surfaces with a clean, dry cloth and repeat.

Painted surfaces should be cleaned with mineral spirits or naphtha. Clean by using continuous wipes in a single direction. Reversing the direction will cause some of the removed contaminants to be re-deposited on the cleaned surface.

Change cloths frequently and be sure to spread out the cloths in an open area after using to allow the solvent to evaporate and to prevent spontaneous combustion.

Non-porous surfaces and finishes should be thoroughly dry, hardened and lightly sanded to allow

the size to adhere to the substrate, particularly when a gloss oil finishes and enamels are present. When there is a previously applied coating or finish, the applicator should test a small area for compatibility before proceeding.

If pre-coating or priming is required, it is recommended that **ROLCO'S BURNISH/SEALERS** be utilized. See the data sheet for the BURNISH/SEALERS.

WARNING: If you scrape, sand or remove old paint or coatings, you may release lead dust. Lead is toxic. Exposure to lead dust can cause serious illness, such as brain damage, especially in children. Pregnant women should also avoid exposure. Wear a NIOSH approved respirator to control lead exposure. Clean up carefully with a HEPA vacuum and a wet mop. Before starting to remove old paint and coatings, find how to protect yourself and others by contacting the National Lead Information hotline at 800-424-LEAD or log onto www.epa.gov/lead.

APPLICATION:

Application of AQUASIZE can be by brush, or spray. Avoid any puddling in crevices. Do not add water-based colorants unless the blend has been tested to produce the desired effect without compromising the size attributes. It is important that all porous surfaces such as raw wood, plaster or stone etc. be sealed, again, ROLCO'S BURNISH/SEALERS are a compatible ideal medium. See the data sheet for the BURNISH/SEALERS.

Even though the size may appear to be uniform throughout, it should be stirred and mixed thoroughly. Mix slowly to prevent the entrapment of air and thereby creating bubbles when applied. Ideal conditions for application are that the size should be applied at 65 to 75 degrees Fahrenheit and 40 to 60 % relative humidity. Differing conditions can compromise film integrity as well as affecting tack and dry times.

The size should be applied at packaged consistency. If thinning is required due to differing surface tensions causing streaking or uneven lay-down, use water or alcohol sparingly as noted. If **BRUSHING**, use a high grade brush suitable for water products or a foam brush. Keep brushes continually wet with size. Due to the quick tack arrival, rolling is not recommended. **SPRAYING** is a function of the gilder's equipment and technique. Insure that a sufficient lay-down is accomplished. Spray by fast movement and apply thin coats to prevent run on any vertical surfaces or to prevent puddling in crevices. If multiple coats are required, wait 1 to 2 hours between spray applied coats and 10 to 12 hours between brush applied coats.

NOTE: If the size is applied to heavily, the surface may not level out and the applied leaf may not be smooth.

If certain brushes or applicators produce unwanted brush strokes or an uneven surface, dilute the AQUASIZE with approximately 2 percent with alcohol. Start with ¼ ounce per pint. Use no more than ½ ounce per pint.

After the size is applied and the specified time of achieving tack arrives, the applied size should have a slightly sticky feeling. Test for proper tack by applying a knuckle to the surface.

Proper tack is achieved when the size does not stick to the knuckle and a slight "tick" is heard when the knuckle is pulled away. When the proper tack is achieved, lay down the leaf and ensure that all of the sized areas are covered. Then rub lightly with a piece of flannel cloth or cotton making sure that the leaf is adhering evenly. If true gold leaf is to be burnished, then do so by further rubbing with a flannel or other soft cloth. For cleanup, use water if the applicators are wet with size. If difficulty is incurred use ammonia water.

Coverage for AQUASIZE on a sealed, non-porous surface is approximately 350 square feet per gallon at a nominal thickness of 2 mils.

NOTE: It is most important that any pretreatment of the substrate must be entirely removed. In particular is the utilization of acidic or alkaline materials. Any residue of such materials will cause composition leaf to discolor due to its copper and zinc composition. Silver and copper leaf will also discolor due to the presence of sulphurous compounds or atmosphere prior to overcoat protection.

ROLCO'S ACRYLIC TOPCOAT will protect silver or copper leaf from discoloring, and extend the non-tarnishing of composition leaf when properly applied and sealed. Generally real gold leaf need not be top coated unless the surface is subject to handling or inadvertent abuse. See the data sheet for ROLCO'S ACRYLIC TOPCOAT.

NOTE: Due to the water content of the AQUASIZE, it is critical that the size be protected from freezing.

The conditions and use of this product are beyond Rolco's control. Directions, information, performance and results when used alone or with products of others are without warranty or guarantee, expressed or implied.